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BROWNBACK ANNOUNCES \$5 MILLION FOR METH LAB CLEAN-UP

WASHINGTON – U.S. Sen. Sam Brownback announced today that the Drug Enforcement Agency and U.S. Department of Justice will make an additional \$5 million immediately available to state and local law enforcement agencies for the clean-up of clandestine methamphetamine laboratories.

“I was pleased to hear that the White House has responded to mounting political pressure and committed an additional \$5 million to the clean-up of clandestine methamphetamine labs for FY 2000,” Brownback said. “However, to continue battling this drug crisis, it is going to take a continued commitment. I will continue to work with the Department of Justice, the Kansas Bureau of Investigation, and local law enforcement to ensure that they have the resources they need to clean these labs up.”

On April 12, Sen. Brownback signed a letter to the president requesting additional money within the Department of Justice’s FY 2000 budget be reprogrammed for meth lab cleanup.

“In the coming months, I am going to see what I can do to ensure that additional funding is made available for clean up,” Brownback said. “I am also going to do my best to ensure that we don’t run into a shortfall of funds ever again. This money is simply too important for our officers, and the safety of our communities.”

The additional \$5 million for meth lab cleanup was reprogrammed by the DoJ with \$3.5 million coming from the working capitol fund and the remaining \$1.5 from the OCDEF (a task force within the department which focuses on organized crime’s role in drug distribution).